

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 06465 221024Z

ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO, US

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. NEUTRON BOMB: COVERAGE CONTINUED. PLAY LATE LAST WEEK WAS CHARACTERIZED BY THIS HEADLINE IN PRO-COMMUNIST "DIARIO POPULAR" OF AUG. 17: "CARTER DELAYS DECISION ON NEUTRON BOMBS." INTER-PRESS ARTICLE BY FRIDA MODAK IN PRO-COMMUNIST "DIARIO DE LISBOA" OF AUG. 17 WAS HEADLINED "NEUTRON BOMB DESTROYS CARTER'S PUBLICISTS' IMAGE" AND SAID: "THE MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES ARE PLEASED AND THE PENTAGON AS WELL, AT THE COMPLETION OF THIS AMONG THE MANY NEGOTIATIONS THEY HAVE CARRIED OUT... BUT INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION CANNOT JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF THIS COMMERCIAL SUCCESS EVEN THROUGH IT HAS SERVED TO SHOW THE TRUE NATURE OF THE PRESENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT." CENTRIST "A CAPITAL" OF AUG. 17 PUBLISHED ROBERT GILETTE PIECE FROM LOS ANGELES TIME WHICH WAS HEADLINED, "NEUTRON BOMB ALREADY IN EXISTENCE 20 YEARS AGO."

2. MIDDLE EAST AND VANCE: WEEKLY LEFTIST MAGAZINE "OPCAO" DATED AUG. 18 PUBLISHED ARTICLE BY ARTUR RAMOS CRITICIZING VANCE
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EFFORTS TOWARD CREATION OF "WORKING GROUP" ON MIDDEAST PEACE AND RIDUCULING U.S. "IMPARTIALITY" IN ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT. WRITER SAID, "PRESIDENT CARTER WANTED TO FIND, IN TERMS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, A SOLUTION WHICH GIVES HIM PRESTIGE AND GETS HIM OUT OF THAT HORNEST" NEST."

3. NATO: WEEKLY LEFTIST NEWSPAPER "O JORNAL" DATED AUG. 19

URGED THAT PORTUGUESE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY'S DEFENSE COMMITTEE
IN NEXT SESSION STUDY A SERIES OF QUESTIONS RELATED TO GOP-NATO
POLICY: "ONLY IN THIS ATMOSPHERE OF FRANK PUBLIC DEBATE ...,
CAN THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE REMAIN CALM AND CONFIDENT; ONLY IN
THIS WAY CAN THEY UNDERSTAND HOW, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET,
THE MILITARY POWER BECOMES DEPENDENT ON POLITICAL POWER;
ONLY UNDERSTANDING ALL OF THE MULTIPLE FACTORS REVOLVING AROUND
THIS MATTER CAN THEY EVALUATE THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES
OF THE COUNTRY BELONGING TO AN ORGANIZATION LIKE NATO; ONLY IN
BEING INFORMED CAN THEY UNDERSTANT THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE
PRESENT DEFENSE MINISTER IN RELATING THE MAJOR MILITARY PROBLEMS
TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE EXECUTIVE; ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN THE
DEFENSE COMMITTEE REALIZE ITS TRUE ROLE..." ARTICLE ALSO SAID:
"AS A MEMBER OF NATO, PORTUGAL HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE
ALLIANCE TO RESPECT THE NECESSITIES OF ITS PARTICIPATION BEYOND
MERELY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FACILITIES REQUESTED.
IT SIMULTANEOUSLY MUST ADAPT ITSELF TO THE NEW CONDITIONS
WHICH NATO REQUIRES OF ITS MEMBERS, IN TERMS OF THE RESTRUCTURING
WHICH THE ATLANTIC PACT COUNTRIES ARE REQUIRING ALL AROUND,
ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING THE LATES SUMMIT MEETING IN LONDON."
JORDAN

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Message Attributes

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